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GA-130 gets FROSTBITTEN

PDK Squadron member takes the lead in ground team qualifications

DAHLONEGA –

FROSTBITE, Georgia Wing's annual cold and wet weather training exercise was held on February 3-5 at Hawk Mountain, just north of Dahlonega near Camp Frank D. Merrill Ranger Training Center.

Ground Teams and representatives from thirteen Georgia Squadrons attended the event, including Peachtree-Dekalb Senior Squadron, Dekalb Cadet Squadron and Gwinnett Composite Squadron.

This year, FROSTBITE lived up to its name as temperatures hovered in the low 30's during the days and plummeted to the mid-teens at night with precipitation ranging from thunderstorms on Saturday morning to snow during most of the exercise. This gave Ground Teams first-hand knowledge that the weather, especially



Cadet John Ortega, 2LT William Hale and Cadet Stephen McClean participating in ground team exercises as part of FROSTBITE 2006

in Georgia, will often be a hindrance to ground search and rescue operations and gave both Seniors and Cadets alike an in-depth understanding on how to function successfully in adverse conditions.

Dozens of sorties were deployed from Hawk Mission Base, ranging from ELT searches to Missing Person and Downed Aircraft searches, as well as Mission Base Staff and Mission Radio Operator training.

See FROSBITE page 3

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Certified, but Qualified?

As a member of CAP, it is easy for anyone to determine what skills you are certified to accomplish – a quick review of your Specialty Qualification Card clearly states your certifications for all to see. If you look at your card, under the picture is a statement that reads "This certifies the CAP member is qualified to perform duties in the areas shown".

We should ask ourselves on a regular basis "Am I qualified to perform all of the duties in the specialties for which I

am certified?" It's very similar to the instrument rated pilot who may be current, but has not practiced his skills recently and is likely not proficient. When we accept a mission position we have an obligation to be both qualified and proficient. Quite simply, we must be able to perform all of the duties of our position without needing help – period!

See CERTIFIED page 3

Commander's Corner

I wanted to thank all our members and trainers who are working hard at getting our squadron's ground team fully qualified and mission ready. There is a tremendous amount of time and effort required in building this team. As we continue through the initial stages, I hope more of our members will become interested in this pursuit. Training is the cornerstone of our organization. Whether it is ground teams, mission base staff or aircrews we all need to be proficient in our job. Keep training so we are "Ready to Roll".

Lt. Col. Jerry Cleary, CAP
GA-130 Commander

Orientation Flights

January (Griffin) and February (FTY/PDK) were both unfortunately WX CANCELLED (weather). March 25 Group 5 orientation flights are set for Rome (RMG) from 0800 to 1700 to compliment Glider operations. A large turnout is expected.

We will pickup PDK cadet flights on each Thursday afternoon after the daylight savings time change. Georgia Tech winter/spring Orientation flights are still pending AFHQ approval.

Maj. Rick Herring, CAP

Finance

It's Tax Filing Time for Civil Air Patrol Members:

What about Charitable Deductions?

Tax Deductions for your Civil Air Patrol Expenses

Uniforms – Uniforms are deductible to the extent that your uniforms cannot be used for regular street wear. The CAP regulations state that the uniform is not to be worn when not on duty (including going to and from activities, etc), so if you consider the typical uniform complete with patches deductible, it will

typically be deductible. However, if you uniform consists of a blue blazer with a name tag hung on the breast pocket, you should only deduct the cost of the name badge. (You get the picture.)

Mileage – When you are driving to and from meetings and other official activities, the direct cost of transportation is deductible. This would include gas and oil, but not wear and tear on your vehicle. In lieu of cash expenses for gas and oil, you can also take \$.14 per mile traveled including parking and tolls. If you drive a Hummer, the mileage rate probably won't work so well for you.

Dues – Dues paid to participate in a charitable activity are deductible.

Contributions – If you make direct "cash" contributions to the CAP, your contributions are deductible. You know that CAP means Come and Pay. Of course this is true for many charitable organizations, as you probably already know.

Your Time – (Don't even think about deducting the value of the time you contribute!)

Use of Equipment - The cost (or the fair market value at the time of the gift) of equipment that you actually donate to the CAP can (generally) be deducted.

However, if you just use the equipment in your CAP activities but retain ownership yourself, you can only deduct your out of pocket costs. For example, if you use a radio in your CAP activities that you own, what is your out of pocket operating costs? That's right! Probably nothing. If you give it to the CAP, that equipment should show up on the inventory of the unit so the unit knows it has it. You should get a receipt for it if you contribute the equipment to the CAP. There is an official CAP form for that.

Travel Expenses – When you attend an event, you can deduct the cost to attend the event, your travel expenses to and from the event, overnight expenses if you have to stay overnight, meals and

incidental expenses that you must incur to participate. Note that these are deductible as charitable expenses, not as business expenses unless you are a paid employee of the CAP.

Flight Training – If you have a mission number, the cost of that flight to the pilot should also be deductible as a charitable deduction.

CAUTION: The tax rules with respect to charitable deductions are voluminous and often unclear. Therefore, you should seek your own tax counsel for assistance with significant or complicated issues. This information is not intended to be legal advice nor specific instructions for you to prepare your or anyone else's tax return. The IRS can assert penalties for failure to adhere properly to the tax laws. In the event that you should receive such an assessment as a result of using the information contained herein, you should be aware that, pursuant to IRS Circular 230, your use of this information will not cause the IRS to waive those penalties.

Capt. John Masters, CAP

The author has been a member of the Civil Air Patrol since 1993. He is a practicing CPA licensed in Georgia and Alabama, a member of the Georgia Bar, and an Investment Advisor registered with the State of Georgia. He holds a BS Degree from Georgia Tech, and MBA from the University of Chicago, and practices in Atlanta, Georgia. Please direct your comments, suggestions, and correction to John Masters at jmasters@jmasters.com



Recruiting

Prospective members to PDK Squadron CAP can contact our Recruiting Officer 1Lt. James Ewing via email at:

James.d.ewing@delta.com or
chockmul@aol.com

QUALIFIED – from page 1

If you can't answer the question with an unqualified "yes", you need remedial training before accepting mission responsibility.

PDK Senior Squadron offers many opportunities for on-going training in our specialties. Our third-Tuesday ES training meetings offer a full range of flight and ground training options. This past Tuesday we offered proficiency training for MP, MO, MS and certain mission base positions. We had over three hours of radio training for MROs and prospective MROs. A CUL developed a simple COMM plan for the evening. We had several UDF training searches to develop proficiency with the L-Per and handheld communications. I was extremely impressed with the enthusiasm and professionalism that was exhibited throughout the evening. While this was going on several members were developing the final plans for the second two-day training exercise in our program to field a fully qualified "senior" ground team. A very impressive training session.

Which gets back to the question - "Am I qualified and proficient?" Regardless of your tenure in CAP, join in the training and GA-130 will be truly "Ready to Roll".

Maj. Charlie Cayce, CAP

FROSTBITE – from page 1

2LT William Hale from PDK along with 1LT Ray Minton from Dekalb Cadet Squadron led a team of five Cadets on three complex and ultimately

successful ground search sorties - successfully rescuing a missing person and locating two ELTs in the hundreds of square miles of the Hawk Mountain area.

Overall, FROSTBITE was a tremendous success. The exercise taught Ground Team Members the importance of their mission in a very realistic setting. FROSTBITE prepared all who participated with the skills and training necessary to complete their mission in any weather, anywhere, at anytime.

2LT William Hale

Editor's Note: 2LT Hale has just completed his qualifications for Ground Team Leader

Ground Team Training

Squadron GA-130
Ground Team Training Session 2
Georgia Public Safety Training Center
February 25 - 26, 2006
Mission #s: GADOS-06-023T &
GADOS-06-024T

The Ground Team training took place on the grounds of the Georgia Public Safety Training Center. Trainees and representatives from Peachtree-Dekalb Senior Squadron, Dekalb Cadet Squadron and Gwinnett Composite Squadron were in attendance.

Weather on Saturday was dismal, with constant rain and temperatures in the low 40's. This prompted the Ground Team trainees to focus on necessary survival skills, in addition to Ground Team skills necessary for successful mission completion. Sunday's weather was much improved, with blue skies, no precipitation and temperatures in the low 60's.

Throughout the weekend, Chief John Creasy, MAJ James Weed and 1LT Ray Minton concentrated on land navigation utilizing both compass and map, search

line procedures and crash site logistics and surveillance. In addition, signal mirror operations, personal equipment refits, marking of search routes, shelter building and whistle signals were also covered. It was an in-depth and comprehensive study of ground search and rescue techniques, wilderness survival and crash site protocol. The trainees came away from the exercise with a firm understanding of Ground Team procedures and skills. Ground Team motivation, morale and attention to course instruction were high and a great sense of camaraderie was developed between Ground Team members. All members are looking forward to the next and final Ground Team exercise at Stone Mountain on March 18 -19.

In regards to GA-130, several Ground Team trainees have now qualified for GTM3 and GTM2. In addition, one member has qualified as Ground Team Leader. As such, Peachtree-Dekalb Senior Squadron is now able to deploy one fully-capable and certified Ground Team.

There were no injuries or incidents to report. As of end-of-mission, all personnel were accounted for.

2LT William H Hale, CAP
PDK Ground Operations

Staff Changes

The following duty assignments are effective 1 Mar 2006:

Capt. Dennis Martucci is assigned as Assistant Operations Officer.

Major Rick Herring is assigned as Flight Operations Officer.

1Lt. Ken Hairr is assigned as Cadet Orientation Officer.

Promotions and Awards

Commander's Commendation



The following PDK members have been awarded the Commander's Commendation Award for superior performance in 2005. The following photos show each member receiving their award from Lt. Col Cleary:



1LT Eric Slocum
Communications



1LT Jim Crone
Personnel



Maj. Bill Bell
Aerospace Education



1LT James Ewing
Recruiting



1LT Joanne Janchus
Finance

Yeager Award



SM Andrea Van Buren



Capt. Roy Villers
Emergency Services



Maj. Rick Herring
"O" Flights

If you have received an award or promotion and have not be recognized in the newsletter, please email the specifics to keith.dickerson@us.schneider-electric.com



Maj. Charlie Cayce
Operations



2LT William Hale
Administration

For online updates of the meeting/training schedule, please go to

[http://www.gawg.cap.gov/GA130/pd
k_training_schedule.xls](http://www.gawg.cap.gov/GA130/pd
k_training_schedule.xls)

GA-130 Training Schedule - 2006 (Jan - June)			
Date	Subject	Instructor	Misc.
January			
03-Jan	Staff Mtg	Cayce	
10-Jan	Overview of CAP e-Services	Crone	
17-Jan	Scanner Ground School - Part I	Kairr	
21-22 Jan	Ground Team Training Exercise	Finton/Bowman	
24-Jan	AE Education	George/Bell	
28-Jan	Orientation Flights	Herring	
31-Jan	Scanner Ground School - Part II	Hairr/Crone	
February			
3-4 Feb	Frostbite	Wing Activity	
04-Feb	ROA Class	Slocum	
07-Feb	Staff Mtg	Cayce	
14-Feb	Flight & ES Jacket Review	Jennings/Crone	
18-Feb	ES Training - tentative	Crone/Villers	
21-Feb	UDF / Flight Line Marshalling	Hale/Villers	
25-26 Feb	Ground Team Training Exercise	Finton/Bowman	
25-Feb	Orientation Flights	Herring	
28-Feb	AE Education	George/Bell	
March			
04-Mar	PDK Sarex	Villers	
07-Mar	Staff Mtg	Cayce	
14-Mar	Prof Dev /O-Flight Requirements	Ewing/Cleary/Herring	
18-19 Mar	Ground Team Training Exercise	Finton/Bowman	
21-Mar	MRO Exercise/Mission Staff Trg	Slocum/Villers	
25-Mar	Orientation Flights	Herring	
28-Mar	AE Education	George/Bell	
April			
01-Apr	MRO Workshop	Slocum	
04-Apr	Staff Mtg	Cayce	
7-8 Apr	GAWG Conference		
11-Apr	Cap FM Radio - Becker	Slocum/Cayce	
15-Apr	Observer Ground School	Crone/Villers/Hairr	
18-Apr	Summer Air/Ground Ops	Crone/Villers	
25-Apr	AE Education	George/Bell	
29-Apr	Orientation Flights	Herring	
May			
02-May	Staff Mtg	Cayce	
09-May	Personnel File - Important !!	Crone/Van Buren	
16-May	Summer Air/Ground Ops	Crone/Villers	
23-May	AE Education	George/Bell	
27-May	Orientation Flights	Herring	
30-May	Summer Air/Ground Ops	Crone/Villers	
TBD	GAWG SAR-EVAL	Ltc Knight	
Jun			
06-Jun	Staff Meeting	Cayce	
13-Jun	Review of the IC Structure	Cleary/Cayce	
17-Jun	Squadron Picnic	TBD	
20-Jun	Summer Air/Ground Ops	Crone/Villers	
24-Jun	Orientation Flights	Herring	
27-Jun	AE Education	George/Bell	

FIRST AID TRAINING
March 25 0800-1700
See page 5 for details

'God grants liberty only to those who love and are always ready to guard and defend it'

Daniel Webster

(Submitted by Maj. Bill Daley)

Public Relations

Major Daley recently went to visit his old Air Force Reserve unit for the retirement of a fellow reserve member. He went in CAP uniform and gave a ten minute talk about the CAP to approximately 90 personal at the 94TH Aeromedical Staging SQD at Dobbins ARB.

According to Major Daley," they were impressed and surprised I went From a MSGT in the Air Force to a MAJ. in the Civil Air Patrol, and still moving on at age 69.

Maj. Bill Daley. CAP



SM Andrea Van Buren and 1LT James Ewing trade witticisms during a recent meeting

CPR / First Aid Training

1LT James Ewing is taking the lead for upcoming First Aid Training. The content will include CPR child, infant, adult, defibrillator training and First Aid. There will be a fee of approximately \$15-25 per person. Ground Team members ground teams will have first pick. Please note there are only 15 slots open. The training will be at PDK on 25 MARCH from 0800 – 1700. Please contact 1LT Ewing for more information.

CPR / First Aid Supplies

http://www.websoft-solutions.net/cpr_supplies_cpr_supplies_cpr_supplies_s/126.htm

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